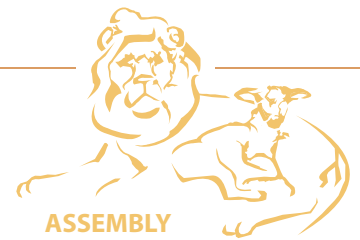


PETER DENIES JESUS

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: LUKE 22:54-62



The following are some ideas for creative ways that you can present this material.

LESSON IDEAS

DENIAL SKIT

Supplies:

- a large cookie jar
- baking “props”

The purpose of this skit is to help the children understand that Peter’s denial was a lie.

Act out the following skit with two teachers or helpers.

Actor #1 is a teacher who acts as a child waiting for his mom to leave the kitchen to take a cookie from a cookie jar.

Actor #2 is a woman who acts as the child’s mother. The mother pretends to be in and out of the kitchen baking cookies. She spends time in the kitchen placing a fresh batch on a sheet then leaves to get something she needs. When she leaves, she tells the child not to touch the cookies in the cookie jar.

Each time Mom leaves the room the child looks tempted, but Mom returns when he gets close to taking a cookie out of the cookie jar. Except the last time when Mom returns earlier than he expected.

Mom leaves the room to:

- Place a letter in the mailbox before the mailman comes,
- Answer a phone call,
- Calm the baby that is crying, and
- Take care of the laundry when the washer buzzes.

It is at this last exit that the child actually takes the cookie. When mom returns she asks the child three times if he took a cookie. The child denies it saying he didn’t even touch the cookie jar. Very convincing except for one fact, he left the lid off the cookie jar. When Mom finally confronts him with this fact, he confesses and the skit is over.

PETER DENIES JESUS

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: LUKE 22:54-62

THE ROOSTER CROWS

Have one of the children play the role of Peter and act out the denial of Christ. When he tells his third lie, have the rest of the class all crow together like roosters. Talk about how powerful God is that He knew what was going to happen before it did.

EVIDENCES OF GRACE

What evidences of grace do you see in Peter? We can often think of this story as a story about how poorly Peter did. But there are evidences of grace. Ask the children to share the good things Peter did.

- Peter defended the Lord when He was about to be arrested.
- Peter wanted to follow Jesus even if it meant his own death.
- Peter followed Jesus even when he was afraid.
- Peter was sad and cried after the rooster crowed realizing that he sinned against Jesus.

After the children share, explain the likelihood that we would be just as afraid as Peter and deny Jesus also.

WHERE IS the Gospel?

Please use the following comments connecting today's lesson to the Gospel to help inform your understanding and serve you by aiding your preparation for class. Remember, we want to do more than present disconnected Bible stories and lessons to our young children. We want them to understand how each story in the Bible plays a part in God's greater plan of redemption.

So often we think we can follow Jesus in our own strength. Peter thought this way. The truth is, even though we think we would do better, we are just like Peter. It is only by the grace of God that we believe. Faith is a gift from God.

Peter needed a savior, and Jesus, the one Peter denied, was moments away from the cross where He would become that savior and die for Peter's sin and our sin. What an amazing display of love, that Jesus would go to the cross willingly even while those closest to Him disowned Him. What an amazing Savior who died for us!